Facilities at Silchar Railway Stations

1405. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Silchar Railway Station is in 'A category as per revenue earning and passenger traffic;

(b) if so, whether it has required facilities *viz.* computerized 24 hours enquiry, sufficient number of computerized booking-cum-reservation counters, *tatkal* booking, toilets, sitting arrangements, refreshment facilities, etc. and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government plan to take for providing required facilities and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The required facilities like Interactive Voice Response System for furnishing information relating to reservation and train running enquiry status during the working hours of Passenger Reservation System, two computerized Passenger Reservation System counters for issuing reserved tickets including *tatkal* reservation, toilet facilities including pay & use toilets arrangements, tea stalls are available at Silchar station.

(c) Provision of more passenger amenities as per norms is a continuous process and therefore, no specific target can be laid down.

Schemes for Tamil Nadu

1406. DR. K MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the pending schemes and new schemes initiated in Tamil Nadu with their outlay and probable time-frame for completion;

(b) whether there is any order of priority of these schemes and they are listed as per priority;

(c) whether in completing the broad gauge conversion in Tamil Nadu, there has been undue delay besides the existence of big regional imbalance; and

(d) whether there would be an all out effort with retrospective effect to complete the broad gauge conversion works?